FEB 2 0 2002

STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY.'S DOCKET: HOASHI=2

In re Application of: Masahito HOASHI, et al.

Serial No.: 09/000,366

Filed: January 28, 1998

For: METHOD FOR THAWING FROZEN GROUND FISH

**MEATS** 

Art Unit: 1761

Examiner: D. BECKER

Confirmation No. 5189

Washington D.C.

February 20, 2002

## **AMENDMENT**

Honorable Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

In response to the Office Action of September 21, 2001, for which a two month extension of time to respond is hereby requested, please enter the following amendment:

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

(Fourth Amendment) A method for thawing frozen ground fish meak which comprises milling a frozen ground fish meat mass to a substantially uniform particle size and then thawing without shearing/it  $m \langle$ by elevating the temperature.

Please amend claim 7 as follows:

(Fourth Amendment) A process for producing materials for kish paste products which involves the step of milling a frozen ground fish meat mass to a uniform particle size thawing said mixled particles without shearing it by elevating the temperature to give a ground fish meat; and